

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended and in light of the following comments, is respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 4-17, 19, and 20 are pending in the application. Claims 2, 4-17, 19, and 20 are amended. Claims 1, 3, and 18 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this amendment.

The Abstract of Disclosure has been amended to delete reference numerals referring to the Figures.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 2, 4-7, 9, 13-17, and 19-20 are objected to as including minor informalities; Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 8-10, and 12-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite; Claims 1-3, 7-11, 18 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by Molnar et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,694,154, hereinafter Molnar); Claims 12-17 were indicated as allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph; and Claims 4-6 and 20 were indicated as allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 2, 4-7, 9, 13-17, and 19-20 have been amended to correct the minor informalities recited in paragraph 2 of the outstanding Office Action, and accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the objection to Claims 2, 4-7, 9, 13-17, and 19-20 be withdrawn.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the early indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 4-6, 12-17, and 20. Accordingly, Claims 4-6 and 20 have been rewritten in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Further, Claims 4-6, 12-17, and 20 have been amended to further clarify the claimed invention, thereby overcoming the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, set

forth in the outstanding Office Action. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Claims 4-6, 12-17, and 20 are now in condition for formal allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the rejection of Claims 4-6, 12-17, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, be withdrawn.

Further, Claims 2, 7-11, and 19 have also been amended to further clarify the claimed invention, and it is respectfully requested that the rejections to Claims 2, 7-11, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, also be withdrawn.

Briefly recapitulating, amended Claim 2 is directed towards a radio communication system including a plurality of mobile stations, a plurality of base stations, and a base station controller. As recited in amended Claim 2, the base station controller is “configured to assign a fixed channel to a group of mobile stations in order to carry out a radio communication with each mobile station of the group” and includes “a device configured to prevent beam patterns using the fixed channel from interfering with each other when communicating with each mobile station of the group.”<sup>1</sup> Similarly, amended Claim 8 recites a radio base station controller including “a device configured to assign a channel to a group of the mobile stations running at same speed or on same lane of the road.”<sup>2</sup> Amended independent Claim 10 recites that “the radio mobile station transmits a signal to the base station controller configured to follow the radio mobile station, even if there is no information to be transmitted to the base station controller.”<sup>3</sup> Amended Claim 11 recites a plurality of base station controllers “configured to predict a positional range of a hand-over between the radio base station controllers and information to be transmitted to the mobile station is shared between the radio

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<sup>1</sup> Support for amended Claim 2 is found in original Claims 1 and 2 and the Applicants’ Specification on page 25, lines 10-34

<sup>2</sup> Support for amended Claim 8 is found in original Claim 8 and the Applicants’ Specification on page 25, lines 20-31

<sup>3</sup> Support for amended Claim 10 is found in original Claim 10 and the Applicants’ Specification on page 31 lines 28-29.

base station controllers adjacent to each other.”<sup>4</sup> Similarly amended Claim 19 recites a radio communication method that includes “predicting a positional range of a hand-over between the first and second radio base station controllers in advance.”<sup>5</sup>

Molnar is directed to a radio communication system including a base station having a directional antenna for generating a plurality of beams including both decoding beams and searching beams for communicating with a set of mobile terminals within a radio communication cell.<sup>6</sup> Further, Molnar describes determining that new mobile terminals have entered the cell and other mobile terminals have left the cell of a directional antenna.<sup>7</sup>

However, Molnar does not describe assigning a channel to a group of mobile terminals within a cell. Therefore, Molnar fails to disclose the base station controller of amended independent Claims 2 and 8 “configured to assign a fixed channel to a group of mobile stations in order to carry out a radio communication with each mobile station of the group” and “configured to assign a channel to a group of the mobile stations running at same speed or on same lane of the road,” respectively. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Molnar does not disclose each and every element of amended Claims 2 and 8, and accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection to Claims 2 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) be withdrawn.

Molnar describes using searching beams to determine if new mobile terminals have entered a cell by physically entering the cell or initiating a call within a cell and if terminals that have left the cell by physically leaving the cell or terminating a call within a cell.<sup>8</sup>

Further, Molnar describes a random access channel used by mobile terminals to request

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<sup>4</sup> Support for amended Claim 11 is found in the Applicants’ Specification on page 38, line 31 to page 39, line 10.

<sup>5</sup> Support for amended Claim 19 is found in the Applicants’ Specification on page 38, line 31 to page 39, line 10.

<sup>6</sup> Molnar, column 3, lines 44-55.

<sup>7</sup> Molnar, column 7, line 61 to column 8, line 13.

<sup>8</sup> Molnar, column 6, line 66 to column 7, line 8.

access to the communication system when the mobile terminals want to use the communication system.<sup>9</sup>

However, Molnar fails to disclose a radio mobile station as in amended independent Claim 10 that “transmits a signal to the base station controller configured to follow the radio mobile station, even if there is no information to be transmitted to the base station controller.” Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Molnar does not disclose each and every element of amended Claim 10, and accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection to Claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) be withdrawn.

Molnar, also describes determining when to hand off from a mobile terminal from one cell to another cell based on a measure of signal strength and/or quality.<sup>10</sup>

However, Molnar fails to disclose a plurality of base station controllers “configured to predict a positional range of a hand-over between the radio base station controllers” or a radio communication method “predicting a positional range of a hand-over between the first and second radio base station controllers in advance,” as recited in amended independent Claims 11 and 19, respectively. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that Molnar does not disclose each and every element of amended Claims 11 and 19, and accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection to Claims 11 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) be withdrawn.

Therefore, in view of the present amendment and in light of the above discussion, it is respectfully requested that the rejections to Claims 2, 3, 7-18, 19, and 20 be withdrawn. It is noted that the rejections to Claims 1, 3, and 18 are rendered moot by the cancellation of the Claims 1, 3, and 18.

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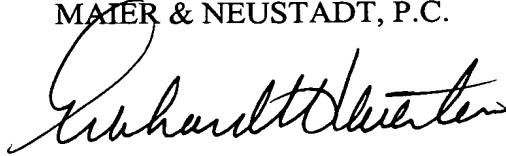
<sup>9</sup> Molnar, column 7, lines 61 to column 8, line 13.

<sup>10</sup> Molnar, column 8, line 54 to column 9, line 5.

As no further issues are believed to be outstanding in this application, the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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